IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5 (underneath the title) insert

- Background of the Invention -;

between lines 28 and 29 insert

- Summary of the Invention -;

Page 2, change lines 1-3 to read as follows:

According to the invention, this object is met by a damping device comprising an actuation part which is held so that it can be moved to and fro corresponding to the movement of a furniture part, a damper, and a gear stage for translating the movements of the actuation part into movements of the damper, wherein the gear stage contains an overrunning coupling which when the actuation part is moved in a first direction couples, and when the actuation part is moved in a second direction, which is opposite to the first direction, uncouples according to claim 1. Preferred embodiments of the invention are contained herein in the subordinate claims.—;

Page 5, between lines 4 and 5 insert

- Background of the Invention -; and

Page 6, before line 1 insert

- Description of the Preferred Embodiments -.